

## ***DETAILED ACTION***

### ***Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112***

**Claim 1-3, 6, 7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph**, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 is directed to a system and recite the following structural elements: “an industry related portal”; and “a second portal of a different industry”, which is confusing.

The specification defines the portal as following:

[0007]

It is an object of the present invention for each of said portals to contain a mini portal and a micro portal. It is an object of the present invention for the system to have *a search engine, which can search a single portal having micro and mini portals or to search between portals.*

Apparently, the specification defines a “portal” as a collection of data files. Furthermore, Microsoft ® Computer Dictionary, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Page 350, defines the term “portal” as: “a Web site that serves as a gateway to the Internet. A portal is a collection of links, content, and services designed to guide users to information they are likely to find interesting – news, weather, entertainment, commerce sites, chat rooms, and so on. Yahoo!, Excite, MSN.com, and Netscape NetCenter are examples of portals”.

Therefore, it is not clear to what extent the term “portal” represents a structural element.

Applicant agrees that a portal is a website that serves as a gateway to the Internet. A portal is a collection of links, content, and services. The specific portal designed in the present application relates to industry portals such as the paper industry, where the links, content and services would be relevant to the paper industry. This is what is shown in the figures and described in the specification. A second and separate portal would be for a different industry, such as steel.

### ***Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103***

Claims 1-3, 7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chipman et al. (US 6,292,894) in view of Krishan et al. (US 6,442,529).

Chipman et al. (Chipman) teach a system for retrieving, organizing and utilizing networked data, comprising:

#### **As per claim 1,**

an industry related portal (column 4, lines 10-17);

a second portal of a different industry (column 4, lines 10-17); Chipman explicitly teaches that applications of said invention may include various industries, including aerospace industry, automotive industry, electronics, pharmaceutical and other industries (C. 14, L. 7-12);

said system integrating said portals so that a user can view information relating to both portals in a single system (column 2, lines 46-54; column 3, lines 51-65).

Chipman does not explicitly teach that information related to a first and second portal is displayed simultaneously.

Krishan et al. (Krishan) teaches a system for delivering targeted information and advertising over the Internet, wherein users are provided with an access to the Internet via Internet services providers (ISP) or via "mini-portals" provided by different entities in such a way that information provided by said "mini-portals" and different entities is displayed simultaneously (Fig. 9; C. 6, l.2-48; C. 20, L. 28-41).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman to include that information related to a first and second portal is displayed simultaneously, as disclosed in Chipman, because it would advantageously simplify the process of selection of topic of interest for the user by not having to memorize the content of each separate Web page.

Krishan relates to a system for providing advertisements or other messages during idle time such as when the users computer is connecting to the Internet. Krishan defines their mini portal as the message display and Internet access product. This is not how the mini portal is defined in the present application. C. 6 lines 2-48 just explain the mini portal as a way to present advertisements. This has nothing to do with industry related portals, or is in any way related to any of the industries described in Chipman.

Figure 9 and Column 20 lines 28-41, relate to windows containing compound messages. Each window contains a message. The messages here are described as local news stories or advertisements.

Whereas Chipman relates to a networked catalog search, retrieval, and information correlation and matching system. The information relates to how suppliers organize information about their products. This is in no way related to Krishan nor are they in the same field or solving the same problem.

For these reasons Claim 1 is not obvious over the prior art.

**As per claim 2**, said method and system, wherein said user can order part or services (column 12, lines 40-41).

For the reasons stated above for Claim 1, Claim 2 is not obvious over the prior art.

**As per claim 3**, Chipman and Khrishan teaches all the limitations of claims 3, including a governing portal for each industry, and other mini-portals in that industry, except specifically teaching that said portals include following definitions: a *macro* portal.

However, these differences are only found in the nonfunctional descriptive material and are not functionally involved in the steps recited. The functions performed by said system would be the same regardless of the definition of the recited portals. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability.

Neither of the above referenced teach a mini portal which is defined as a vertical market portal and a micro portal defined as specific niches within industries. Specifically Krishan teaches advertisements as a portal, which does not relate to industries, and Chipman relates to suppliers selling products which does not relate to portal as defined.

For these reasons and the reasons stated above for claim 1, Claim 3 is not obvious over the prior art.

**As per claim 7**, said method and system, further comprising product specification information (column 9, lines 56-63).

For the reasons stated above for Claim 1, Claim 7 is not obvious over the prior art.

**As per claim 9**, said method and system, further comprising a search engine (column 6, line 63 – column 7, lines 14).

For the reasons stated above for Claim 1, Claim 9 is not obvious over the prior art.

**Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chipman et al. in view of Krishan et al. and further in view of Rangan (US 6,412,073).**

**As per claim 6**, Chipman in view of Krishan teaches all the limitations of claim 6, except specifically teaching a transaction-tracking component.

Rangan teaches a method and system for user-interactive portals accessible via the Internet, wherein a facility is provided for automatically tracking transactions made at various destinations (column 8, lines 20-21).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman and Krishan to include transaction tracking component, as disclosed in Rangan, because it would advantageously allow to automate processing of the transactions for the users, as specifically stated in Rangan (C. 8, L. 19-23).

For the reasons stated above for Claim 1, Claim 6 is not obvious over the prior art.

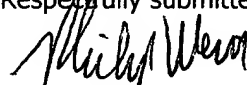
Applicant believes that the application is in condition for allowance.

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